

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 5-15, and 18-46 were pending in the present application. Applicant amends Claims 1, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 21, 22, and 26 to clarify claimed subject matter and/or correct informalities. The original specification and drawings support these claim amendments at least at pages 2-9 and in Figure 10. Therefore, these revisions introduce no new matter.

Claims 1-2, 5, 6, 7-15, 18, 19, and 21-26 are for consideration upon entry of the present Amendment. Applicant requests favorable consideration of this response and allowance of the subject application based on the allowable subject matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

A. Claims 7-12 and 20-25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims (Office Action, page 5). Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that these claims are allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's assistance in advancing prosecution of the application.

Applicant amends independent **Claims 1 and 14** to recite features formerly recited in allowable dependent Claims 7 and 20, respectively. The amendments to independent Claims 1 and 14 are purely of form (i.e., dependent format to independent

format), and are not to overcome prior art or any other objections. Accordingly, dependent Claims 7 and 20 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicant amends dependent **Claim 10** to recite the features of independent Claim 1. The amendment to dependent Claim 10 is purely of form (i.e., dependent format to independent format), and is not to overcome prior art or any other objections.

Applicant submits that independent **Claims 1, 10, and 14** are in allowable form. **Dependent Claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13,** depend directly or indirectly from one of independent Claims 6 and 11, respectively, and thus are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, and 10 are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 13-15, 18-19, and 26-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. 2005/0066063 to Grigorovitch in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,122,708 to Faraboschi et al. (hereinafter known as "Faraboschi" below). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Applicant amended **Claims 1 and 14** to recite features formerly recited in allowable dependent Claims 7 and 20, respectively. Applicant amends allowable dependent **Claim 10** to recite the features of Claim 1. **Dependent Claims 2, 5-6, 13, 15, 18-19, and 26** depend from an allowable base claim. Applicant respectfully requests the Office to withdraw the rejections in light of the allowable subject matter.

Conclusion

Claims 1-2, 5, 6, 7-15, 18, 19, and 21-26 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the subject application. If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, the Office is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dated: 8-31-2007

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